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PP RUEHAG RUEHDT RUEHPB RUEHROV RUEHSL RUEHSR  
DE RUEHTC #0727 3370939

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FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3531

INFO RUCNARF/ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

RUCNMEM/EU MEMBER STATES COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING PRIORITY 2093

RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY 2850

RUEHLM/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO PRIORITY 0506

RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 0672

RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY 0006

RUEHGO/AMEMBASSY RANGOON PRIORITY 0126

RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY 1425

RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY 1844

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 000727

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/29/2019

TAGS: PREL PGOV BM NL

SUBJECT: NETHERLANDS/BURMA: SUPPORTING U.S. APPROACH

REF: A. SECSTATE 121789

1B. THE HAGUE 609

Classified By: Pol Deputy Eric Falls for reasons 1.4(b,d)

11. (C) The Dutch will support the U.S. approach of urging the GOB to engage in dialogue with the opposition and minority groups, to permit dialogue between Aung San Suu Kyi (ASSK) and her political leadership, and to encourage Asian governments in this effort. Pol Deputy raised reftel points with Annelies Faro, Burma desk officer, on November 30. Faro agreed there was no daylight between U.S. and Dutch priorities with the GOB, and on plans to retain sanctions for the moment. The Dutch ambassador to Thailand, who serves concurrently as Ambassador to Burma, may raise Dutch priorities when he presents credentials on December 1, but it's unclear if there will be such an opportunity during the ceremony.

12. (C) Faro also added that FM Verhagen met Thant Myint-U (grandson of the former UNSYG) on November 27 to discuss the situation in Burma. Unlike Verhagen, Myint-U opposes sanctions, but both men shared a common concern about the isolation of Burma. The Dutch are looking for mechanisms to engage, such as tourism. Responding to a request from the Dutch parliament, the Dutch embassy in Bangkok will favorably consider a roughly 300,000 euro proposal to support free media in Burma.

LEVIN